

# CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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**RELEASE**  
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## **SMUD's Free Tree Program Recognized with Tree Line USA award**

### **Sacramento Shade receives kudos for enhancing region's urban forest**

**Sacramento-** The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) will recognize the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) as a Tree Line USA utility at an awards ceremony on **Thursday April 18 starting at 9 A.M. in the SMUD Headquarters Auditorium, 6201 S. St.** This award recognizes SMUD as a utility that strives for effective tree planting and public education.

Tree Line USA is sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and recognizes public and private utilities across the nation that demonstrate practices which protect and enhance America's urban forests. National Arbor Day is April 26.

SMUD's Sacramento Shade Program has been very successful in planting shade trees near homes and businesses and has expanded to include schools and parks. Urban trees help lower customers' air conditioning costs and reduce the demand for power during peak summer afternoons. The initial cooling benefits from these young trees will be realized in about three years, and when the trees mature there may be as much as a 40% savings in the homeowners' summer cooling bill. To learn more about the Sacramento Shade program should call SMUD at 1-888-742-7683 or visit [www.smud.org/sacshade](http://www.smud.org/sacshade)

SMUD is also recognized as a Tree Line USA utility for its environmentally acceptable overhead tree trimming practices and concern of tree root systems in underground trenching practices while promoting safety, reliability and compliance with local laws.

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